

Notes of August 8, 2011 Meeting
Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee
And Plainfield Energy Coordinator
By: Rich Phillips

Attending: Joel Trupen, Ed Hutchinson, Bob Atchinson, Anne Miller, Rich Phillips

Convene: 7:05

Adjourn: 8:40 PM

Meeting on August 1, 2011:

Due to lack of attendance, there was no meeting on August 1, 2011, which was our regularly scheduled monthly meeting night. This meeting substitutes for the 8/1/11 meeting

Business:

- 1) Discussed the new \$500 grant possibility from AOT to promote public transportation and the new "Go Vermont" website that improves the ability to carpool. Decided we weren't that interested in simply promoting the website but we will make a proposal based on what we believe will work to increase carpooling, van pooling and commuter bus rider ship. Anne and Dan will put together a proposal to review at our next meeting. (9/5/11). We need to respond by 9/15/11 if we want to be considered.
- 2) Discussed the 8/17/11 Efficiency Vermont feedback session in Montpelier. This is an effort to gather for Energy Committees assessments on how well EV programs have worked and what else might be added to improve energy reduction prospects. Preliminarily, Anne, Rich, Ed, Dan and Bob will attend.
- 3) Discussed the bike rack grant. We are asking for 5 two-bike racks to be placed on pads the location of which has not been established. Rich will check with Bob Light about the floodplain issues concerning the placement of the racks. Bobbi is dealing with this grant.
- 4) The status of the Twinfield project was discussed. The roof project did not proceed because the base bids for the project were about \$900,000 vs. the bond authority at \$600,000. The Facilities Committee will evaluate resolution of this problem in the near future. The Whole School Energy Challenge project may get off the ground in September or October. Rich will be talking with Charlie Wanzer to see how our VECAN grant \$2,800 will be used. The possibility exists that the WSEC project will falter and leave us little to do with the \$2,800. We still should probably proceed with the "Resident Engagement" project and maybe we could do a few "Energy Home Visits" with students. It was decided to see how this plays out with the possibility of returning the grant if the project fails.
- 5) Resident Engagement Project:
Using the brainstorm effort we made on May 2, 2011, we continued to discuss the form this project will take. We are still stumbling over how to get residents interested in participating in any process to increase energy reduction and alternative energy projects. Rich will research what some other towns have done and propose a plan for next meeting on September 5, 2011
- 6) The Village streetlight project was discussed including the possibility of shutting down some lights on a trial basis to assess whether this will be acceptable to voters. We also discussed hiring a consultant using EV money to assess the best long-term options for the lights in the Village. If the lights were changed over to LEDs and GMP still owned them, there would be little savings. The Village would see no difference in management of the lights, but there would be an environmental savings. Rich will contact Trustee Arthur Gilman to see if a Village person would lead this effort.